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32892.00024

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Eugenio A. Cefali  
Application No. : 08/962,421 Confirmation No.:  
Filed : October 31, 1997 (RCE filed concurrently  
herewith  
For : INTERMEDIATE RELEASE NICOTINIC ACID  
COMPOSITIONS FOR TREATING HYPERLIPIDEMIA  
WHICH EXHIBIT AN IN VIVO STAIR-STEPPED  
ABSORPTION CURVE  
Group : 1615  
Examiner : James M. Spear

Hon. Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Box RCE

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to continuing examination of the  
application in its merits, kindly amend the application as  
follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, under "Related Patent Applications"  
please replace the paragraph with the following:<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> An Appendix of Amendments, showing changes to the  
specification, is attached. In the Appendix, additions and  
deletions are indicated by underscore and brackets,  
respectively.